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A/AC.240/1995/WG/10
22 June 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Drafting Group

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Draft declaration (rolling text 2) submitted by the Chairman

1. On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we, the Heads of State, Heads of Government and heads of delegation, representing the peoples of the world:

- Express our gratitude to all men and women who have made the United Nations possible, done its work and served its ideals

- Solemnly reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and our commitments to them

- Are determined that the United Nations of the future will work with renewed vigour and effectiveness towards ensuring a better life for and understanding between the peoples of the world

2. It remains deeply relevant to recall that the Charter of the United Nations was written following the untold sufferings of the Second World War. Its commitment "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" is as vital today as it was 50 years ago. In this, as in other respects, the Charter gives expression to the common values and aspirations of humankind.

3. The United Nations has been constantly tested by conflict and turbulent change, yet it has survived and persevered to achieve much for people all over the world. Through the decolonization process and the elimination of apartheid it has ensured to hundreds of millions of human beings the fundamental right of self-determination. It has helped to shape the very structure of international relations in the modern age.

4. The speed and extent of change in today's world point to a future of great complexity and challenge. Our ability to shape that future creatively has been expanded by the end of the cold war, but the end of that confrontation has also increased sharply the level of expectations of the United Nations.

5. For these reasons, it is essential that the United Nations itself be reformed and modernized. The authority of the universal organ of the United Nations, the General Assembly, must be fully respected and utilized; the role of the Economic and Social Council must be strengthened; and the Security Council must be expanded to reflect contemporary realities and its working efficiency improved. These and other essential changes within the United Nations system must be made without delay if we are to ensure that the United Nations serves well the peoples in whose name it was established.

6. To meet these challenges, and on the basis of our common recognition that action to secure global peace, security and stability will be futile unless the economic and social needs of people, as well as of States, are addressed, we will:

- Fully utilize the facilities of the United Nations in the field of pacific settlement of disputes and enhance its capabilities in conflict prevention and preventive diplomacy

- Enhance the capability of the United Nations to carry out peace-keeping operations and in peace-building

- Strongly support United Nations, national and regional actions on all forms of arms control and disarmament and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, in pursuit of our common commitment to a world free of such weapons

- Act together to defeat the threats to States and peoples posed by terrorism, internationally organized crime and the narcotics and illicit arms trades

- Strengthen consultation and cooperation between regional arrangements or agencies and the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security

7. A dynamic, vigorous and fair international economic environment is essential to the well-being of humankind and to international peace, security and stability. This need must be addressed, in greater measure, by the United Nations.

8. The United Nations has played an important role in the promotion of economic and social development and has, over the years, provided life-saving assistance to women, children and men around the world. But the pledge recorded in the Charter that all members of the United Nations shall take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development, has not been adequately implemented.

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9. Today, one fifth of the world's 5.7 billion people live in abject poverty. Extraordinary measures are needed to address this and related problems of disease, the situation of women and children, migrant workers, social exclusion narcotics and environmental degradation.

10. To this end, the United Nations has convened a number of specifically focused global conferences in the last five years. As a result, a vital consensus has emerged on concepts of sustainable economic growth and sustainabl development, at the core of which is recognition that people must be at the centre of our actions towards such development.

11. In this context, we are convinced that democracy and the promotion and protection of all human rights, particularly the right to development, are essential foundations of development.

12. Accordingly, in response to the right to development, we are resolved to:

- Promote an open framework for trade, investment and transfers of technology and knowledge, as well as enhanced cooperation in the area: of debt and finance for development, as critical conditions for sustained economic growth. Particular attention should be given to national and international action to enhance the benefits of the process of globalization for all countries and to avoid the marginalization from the world economy of the least developed countries and countries in Africa

- Reinvigorate the dialogue between the developed and developing countries on all development issues based on the imperatives of mutual benefit and interest, genuine interdependence and shared but differentiated responsibility

- Enhance efforts to develop an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system in order to promote growth and development and the free movement of all factors of production

- Promote social development through decisive national and international action aimed at the eradication of poverty as an imperative of humankind and the promotion of full employment and social integration

- Recognize that the full participation of women is central to all efforts to achieve development

- Promote actions to reduce and eliminate unsustainable patters of production and consumption as well as policies designed to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, recognizing that environmental sustainability constitutes an integral part of the development process

- Improve the effectiveness of the United Nations system for development, especially at the field level, and strengthen the role of

the United Nations system in all relevant fields of international economic cooperation

- Intensify cooperation in natural disaster reduction, combating desertification, disaster relief, post-disaster rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance, in order to enhance the capabilities of countries, particularly developing countries, to cope with such situations

13. We support deeply the Charter's affirmation of the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and the principle that all human rights are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

14. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms. We will therefore:

- Promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are inherent to all human beings

- Strengthen policies and programmes that ensure the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners, and the full realization of their rights with respect to education and access to work on fair terms

- Protect the rights of the child, of youth and of the disabled

- Recognize and support indigenous people in their pursuit of economic and social development with full respect for their identity, traditions, forms of social organization and cultural values

15. The Charter of the United Nations has provided a framework for the promotion of international law enabling the United Nations to play a crucial role in the development of international law and the building of a structure of modern international relations. The continued promotion of international law must be pursued with renewed determination, with a view to ensuring that relations between nations are based on the principles of justice and universally accepted principles of international law. Such action is particularly required given developments under way in technology, transport, information and resource related fields and international financial markets, as well as the growing complexity of the work of the United Nations in the humanitarian and refugee assistance fields.

16. We are determined to:

- Promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law

- Encourage universal ratification of multilateral treaties and compliance with the obligations arising from them

- Promote respect for and implementation of instruments of international humanitarian law

- Promote the further codification and progressive development of international law, aimed in particular at pursuing economic and social progress and "better standards of life in larger freedom" and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

- Promote the building and maintenance of fair and just societies, in which all people are able to participate

- Encourage resort to means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States

- Build and maintain justice between nations in full compliance with the principle of the sovereign equality of States enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations

17. We recognize that our common work, if it is to be successful, requires that participation in it be open to all actors, governmental, non-governmental and the private sector. We will facilitate such participation.

18. Equally, a healthy United Nations needs adequate resources. We reaffirm the obligation of Member States to meet in full and on time their financial obligations to the United Nations system and to provide that system with appropriate budgets.

19. The secretariats of the United Nations system must improve significantly their efficiency and effectiveness. To this end, Member States must pursue and take responsibility for restructuring the system.

20. Our resolve on this historic occasion is clear. The commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations must be seized as an opportunity to redirect it to greater service to humankind, especially to those who are suffering and are deeply deprived. This is the practical and moral challenge of our time. Our obligation to this end is found in the Charter. The need for it is manifest in the condition of humankind. We will give to the twenty-first century a United Nations equipped and structured to serve effectively the causes of peace, development, equality and justice.

A/AC.240/1995/WG/11
5 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Drafting Group
22nd meeting
20 July 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Amendments proposed to the draft declaration for the fiftieth anniversary (rolling text 2) submitted by the Chairman (A/AC.240/1995/WG.10)

1. Amendments proposed by Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine

Paragraph 12, last item

(a) After natural disaster reduction add and with regard to the reduction of major technological and man-made catastrophes,

(b) After developing countries add and affected countries with economies in transition,

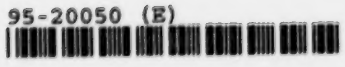
2. Amendments proposed by Germany

(a) Paragraph 6, second item

For enhance read ensure.

"Enhance" appears to be a very optimistic term in this context.

95-20050 (E)



(b) Paragraph 11

The right to development should not be highlighted among all other human rights. For particularly read including.

(c) Paragraph 18, second sentence

We would prefer a strong wording, i.e. for reaffirm read stress.

(d) Paragraph 19, first sentence

In its current form the sentence appears bureaucratic and has little meaning. Replace by The secretariats of the United Nations system must become efficient and effective.

3. Amendments proposed by Italy

Paragraph 15, first two sentences, should read

"The Charter of the United Nations has provided a framework for the promotion and development of international law, thus enabling the United Nations to play a crucial role in building the structure of modern international relations. The continued promotion and development of international law must be pursued with renewed determination with a view to ensuring that relations between nations are based on the principles of justice and respect for the rule of law."

4. Amendments proposed by Japan

(a) Paragraph 9, third line

Delete the situation of and and.

(b) Paragraph 11, second line

Delete particularly the right to development.

(c) Paragraph 12

(i) First line

Delete in response to the right to development.

(ii) First item, third line

For debt and finance read finance and debt.

(iii) Third item, third and fourth lines

Delete and the free movement of all factors of production.

(d) Paragraph 14, second item

(i) First line

For full read equal.

(ii) Fourth line

For fair read equal and after with respect to add health, including their reproductive health.

5. Amendments proposed by Netherlands

(a) Paragraphs 7-12

We think that the subject of population merits specific attention in this part of the draft declaration.

(b) Paragraph 11

For particularly read including.

(c) Paragraph 12

(i) First item

Delete and to avoid the marginalization from the world economy of the least developed countries and countries in Africa.

(ii) Third item

After Enhance efforts insert to continue.

(iii) Seventh item

Delete especially at the field level.

6. Amendments proposed by New Zealand

(a) Paragraph 3, second sentence should read

"Through the decolonization process and the elimination of apartheid hundreds of millions of human beings are assured the fundamental right of self-determination".

(b) Paragraph 5, fifth line

Delete to reflect contemporary circumstances.

(c) Paragraph 9

(i) Third line

After women and children add refugees.

(ii) Fourth line

After degradation add including desertification.

(d) Paragraph 12

(i) Second and third items

Reverse two and three. Move seventh item to become third item.

(ii) Old fourth item

Delete and social integration

(iii) Last item

Delete combating desertification.

(e) Paragraph 16, second item

For universal read the widest possible.

(f) Paragraph 18

Substitute the following text

Equally, a healthy United Nations needs adequate budgets and resources and a fair system of assessments. We commit ourselves to achieving these, and in this context will in future meet in full and on time our financial obligations to the United Nations system, cease the practice of delaying and withholding payments beyond due dates, and will clear all arrears.

(g) Paragraph 19

Substitute the following text

The secretariats of the United Nations system must improve significantly their efficiency and effectiveness in administering and managing the resources allocated to them by Member States. For their part, Member States will pursue and take responsibility for restructuring the system.

7. Amendments proposed by Ukraine

(a) Paragraph 3

Between the first and second sentences insert

Notwithstanding the brinkmanship policies that resulted from ideological rivalry, the United Nations has played an important role in preventing the sliding of mankind into the new fatal world war.

(b) Paragraph 5, fifth line

After must be expanded add taking into account the interests of all regional groups.

(c) Paragraph 6, fifth item

At the end of the subparagraph add in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

(d) Paragraph 12

(i) Second item

After developing countries add as well as with countries with economies in transition.

(ii) Last item

After intensify cooperation in natural disaster reduction add as well as major technological catastrophes.

(e) Paragraph 14, last item

After recognize and support indigenous add and deported peoples as well as national minorities.

(f) Paragraph 16, last item

Substitute the following text

Build and maintain justice between nations in full compliance with the principles of the sovereign equality, territorial integrity of States and inviolability of their frontiers enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

A/AC.240/1995/WG/12*
21 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Working Group
23rd meeting
25 July 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Draft declaration (rolling text 3) submitted by the Chairman

1. On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we, the Heads of State, Heads of Government and Heads of delegation, representing the peoples of the world:

- Solemnly reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and our commitment to them;

- Express our gratitude to all men and women who have made the United Nations possible, done its work and served its ideals, particularly those who have given their lives during service to the United Nations;

- Are determined that the United Nations of the future will work with renewed vigour and effectiveness in promoting peace, development, human rights, equality, justice and understanding among the peoples of the world.

2. It remains deeply relevant to recall that the Charter of the United Nations was written following the untold sufferings of the Second World War. Its commitment "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" is as vital today as it was 50 years ago. In this, as in other respects, the Charter gives expression to the common values and aspirations of humankind.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

3. The United Nations has been tested by conflict, humanitarian crisis and turbulent change, yet it has survived and played an important role in preventing another global conflict. Through the decolonization process and the elimination of apartheid, hundreds of millions of human beings have been assured the fundamental right of self-determination. The United Nations has also assisted countless millions in obtaining health, opportunity, shelter and human rights. It has helped to shape the very structure of relations between nations in the modern age.

4. The speed and extent of change in today's world point to a future of great complexity and challenge and to a sharp increase in the level of expectations of the United Nations.

5. For these reasons, it is essential that the United Nations itself be reformed and modernized. The authority of the universal organ of the United Nations, the General Assembly, must be fully respected and utilized; the role of the Economic and Social Council must be strengthened; and the Security Council must be expanded and its working efficiency improved. These and other essential changes within the United Nations system must be made without delay if we are to ensure that the United Nations of the future serves well the peoples in whose name it was established.

6. To meet these challenges, and while recognizing that action to secure global peace, security and stability will be futile unless the economic and social needs of people, as well as of States, are addressed, we will:

- Fully utilize the facilities of the United Nations in the field of pacific settlement of disputes and enhance its capabilities in conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, peace-keeping and peace-building;

- Strongly support United Nations and national and regional actions on all forms of arms control and disarmament and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, in pursuit of our common commitment to a world free of such weapons;

- Act together to defeat the threats to States and peoples posed by terrorism, internationally organized crime and the illicit narcotics and arms trades;

- Strengthen consultation and cooperation between regional arrangements or agencies and the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

7. A dynamic, vigorous, free and fair and non-discriminatory international economic environment is essential to the well-being of humankind and to international peace, security and stability. This need must be addressed, in greater measure, by the United Nations.

8. The United Nations has played an important role in the promotion of economic and social development and has, over the years, provided life-saving assistance to women, children and men around the world. But the pledge recorded in the Charter that all Members of the United Nations shall take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of

higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development has not been adequately implemented.

9. Today, one fifth of the world's 5.7 billion people live in abject poverty. Extraordinary measures of international cooperation are needed to address this and related problems of population growth, disease, the situation of women and children, refugees, migrant workers, social exclusion, illicit narcotics and environmental degradation and desertification.

10. To this end, the United Nations has convened a number of specifically focused global conferences in the last five years. As a result, a consensus has emerged on concepts of sustainable economic growth and sustainable development, at the core of which is recognition that the human person is the central subject of development and must be at the centre of our actions towards such development.

11. In this context, we are convinced that democracy, individual freedom and the promotion and protection of all human rights, including the right to development, are the interdependent and indispensable foundations of development.

12. Accordingly, we are resolved:

- To promote an open framework for trade, investment and transfers of technology and knowledge, as well as enhanced cooperation in the areas of finance and debt, for development, as critical conditions for sustained economic growth;

- To give particular attention to national and international action to enhance the benefits of the process of globalization for all countries and to avoid the marginalization from the world economy of the least developed countries and countries in Africa;

- To enhance efforts to continue to develop an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system in order to promote growth and development;

- To improve the effectiveness of the United Nations system for development and strengthen the role of the United Nations system in all relevant fields of international economic cooperation;

- To reinvigorate the dialogue between the developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition on all development issues based on the imperatives of mutual benefit and interest, genuine interdependence and shared but differentiated responsibility;

- To promote social development through decisive national and international action aimed at the eradication of poverty as an imperative of humankind and the promotion of full employment and social integration;

- To recognize that the empowerment and the full participation of women are central to all efforts to achieve development;

- To promote actions to reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and demographic growth as well as policies designed to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, recognizing that environmental sustainability constitutes an integral part of the development process;

- To intensify cooperation in natural disaster reduction and major technological and man-made disasters, disaster relief, post-disaster rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance, in order to enhance the capabilities of countries, particularly developing countries and affected countries with economies in transition, to cope with such situations.

13. We support deeply the Charter's affirmation of the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and the principle that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

14. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

15. We will therefore:

- Promote and encourage adherence to human rights and fundamental freedoms, as the birthright of all human beings;

- Take concerted action towards ensuring the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners, and the full realization of their rights with respect to health, including reproductive health, education and access to work on equal terms;

- Protect the rights of the child, of youth and of the disabled;

- Recognize and support indigenous people and deported people and national minorities in their pursuit of economic and social development with full respect for their identity, traditions, forms of social organization and cultural values.

16. The Charter of the United Nations has provided a durable framework for the promotion and development of international law, thus enabling the United Nations to play a crucial role in building the structure of modern international relations. The continued promotion and development of international law must be pursued with renewed determination, with a view to ensuring that relations between nations are based on the principles of justice, universally accepted principles of international law and respect for the rule of law. Such action is particularly required, given the developments under way in technology, transport, information and resource-related fields and international financial markets, as well as the growing complexity of the work of the United Nations in the humanitarian and refugee assistance fields.

17. We are determined:

- To promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law;
- To build and maintain justice between nations in full compliance with the principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and the inviolability of their frontiers enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;
- To encourage the widest possible ratification of multilateral treaties and compliance with the obligations arising from them;
- To promote respect for and implementation of instruments of international humanitarian law;
- To promote the further codification and progressive development of international law, aimed in particular at pursuing economic and social progress and "better standards of life in larger freedom" and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- To encourage the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;
- To promote the building and maintenance of fair and just societies, in which all people are able to participate.

18. We recognize that our common work, if it is to be successful, requires that participation in it be open to all actors, governmental, non-governmental and private sector. We will facilitate such participation.

19. Equally, a healthy United Nations needs adequate budgets and resources and a fair system of assessments. We stress the legal obligation of Member States to meet in full and on time their financial obligations to the United Nations system.

20. The secretariats of the United Nations system must improve significantly their efficiency and effectiveness in administering and managing the resources allocated to them by Member States. For their part, Member States will pursue and take responsibility for restructuring the system.

21. Our resolve on this historic occasion is clear. The commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations must be seized as an opportunity to redirect it to greater service to humankind, especially to those who are suffering and are deeply deprived. This is the practical and moral challenge of our time. Our obligation to this end is found in the Charter. The need for it is manifest in the condition of humankind. We will give to the twenty-first century a United Nations equipped and structured to serve effectively the causes of peace, development, human rights, equality and justice.

A/AC.240/1995/WG/13
17 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Drafting Group
22nd and 23rd meetings
20 July 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Amendments proposed to the draft declaration for the fiftieth anniversary (rolling text 2) submitted by the Chairman (A/AC.240/1995/WG/10)

Amendments proposed by the Working Group of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

1. Paragraph 1

(a) Replace the first subparagraph by the second subparagraph as proposed by the Working Group in document A/AC.240/1995/WG/8, sect. D, item 2

(b) Replace the last part of the first subparagraph by

and those who have served its ideals

(c) Replace the beginning of the third subparagraph by

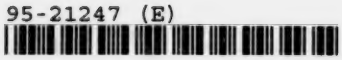
We declare our determination to

(d) Add a new final subparagraph as proposed by the Working Group in document A/AC.240/1995/WG/8, sect. D, item 5

2. Paragraph 3

(a) In the first line, delete constantly

(b) In the second line, delete and survived



(c) In the third line, insert ongoing before decolonization process

3. Paragraph 5

Substitute the two paragraphs proposed by the Working Group in document A/AC.240/1995/WG/8, sect. D, item 9

4. Paragraph 6

Replace paragraph 9 as contained in document A/AC.240/1995/WG/6 as amended by the Working Group in document A/AC.240/1995/8, sect. D, items 11 to 19

5. Paragraph 7

Before dynamic insert equitable and non-discriminatory

6. Paragraph 9

After children insert refugees

7. Paragraph 10

For a number of read recently

What is the meaning of the word "vital" in the second part of the paragraph?

8. Paragraph 11

Before are essential add are interdependent and as the phrase appears in the Vienna Declaration.

9. Paragraph 12

(a) For in response to read in fulfilment of

(b) Replace the fifth subparagraph by the following text

Ensure the empowerment of women, which is central to all efforts to achieve development

(c) In the sixth subparagraph after patterns of production add especially in developed countries

(d) Replace the seventh subparagraph by the following text

Enhance greatly the capacity and resources of the United Nations system for development (see A/AC.240/1995/8, sect. D, item 31)

10. Paragraph 15

Replace by the following text

The Charter of the United Nations has provided a durable framework enabling the United Nations to play an important role in the development of international law and in building a modern structure for the conduct and primacy of the rule of law in international relations. The continued promotion of international law must be pursued with renewed determination, with a view to ensuring that relations between nations are based on the principles of justice, equity, non-discrimination and other universally accepted principles of international law.

11. Paragraph 16

(a) Insert the seventh subparagraph before the second subparagraph

(b) Replace the old second subparagraph by the following text

Encourage wider acceptance of multilateral treaties and compliance with the parties' obligations arising from them

(c) Replace the old fourth subparagraph by the following text

Promote the further codification and progressive development of international law in all areas of international cooperation

(d) Move the fifth subparagraph to become the seventh subparagraph

12. Paragraph 17

Replace by the following text

We recognize that the global nature of our world requires wider participation, including governmental and non-governmental bodies at the same time. We reaffirm the centrality of the fact that the United Nations is first and foremost an intergovernmental organization (see A/AC.240/1995/WG/8, sect. D, item 42).

13. Paragraph 18

(a) Delete the first sentence

(b) After on time add and without condition

14. Paragraph 19

Replace the second sentence by the following text

Member States must pursue and take responsibility in this regard

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A/AC.240/1995/WG/14
20 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Working Group
23rd meeting
25 July 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Amendments proposed by the Russian Federation, on behalf of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, to the draft declaration for the fiftieth anniversary (rolling text 3) submitted by the Chairman (A/AC.240/1995/WG/12)

Paragraph 1

Insert a new subparagraph (a) as follows

Express satisfaction that the aftermath of World War II, whose fiftieth anniversary was marked by the international community in 1995, has been essentially overcome;

95-21789 (E) 210795 240795

A/AC.240/1995/WG/15
26 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Drafting Group
25th and 26th meetings
27 July 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Amendments proposed by the Holy See to the draft declaration for the fiftieth anniversary (rolling text 3) submitted by the Chairman (A/AC.240/1995/WG/12)

1. Paragraph 6 (second item)

(a) Third line

After mass destruction insert as well as other forms of particularly inhumane weapons,

(b) Include the concept of

conventional weapons

in the event that "all forms of" is deleted

2. Paragraph 9, second sentence

Add production and consumption patterns, education and literacy, employment, housing, water sanitation, debt relief and debt swap, trade considerations, displaced and disabled persons

or alternatively, after

and related problems delete remaining part of the sentence.

95-22332 (E)

A/AC.240/1995/WG/16
31 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
Drafting Group
28th meeting
2 August 1995

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Draft declaration (rolling text 4) submitted by the Chairman

1. On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we, the Heads of State, Heads of Government and Heads of Delegation, representing the peoples of the world:

- Solemnly reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and our commitments to them, particularly the principles of the sovereignty, sovereign equality, territorial integrity and non-interference in the domestic jurisdiction of States, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the avoidance of the threat or use of force

- Express our gratitude to all men and women who have made the United Nations possible, done its work and served its ideals, particularly those who have given their lives during service to the United Nations

- Are determined that the United Nations of the future will work with renewed vigour and effectiveness in promoting peace, development, equality, justice, and understanding amongst the peoples of the world.

2. It remains deeply relevant to recall that the Charter of the United Nations was written following the untold sufferings of the Second World War. Its commitment "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" is as vital today as it was 50 years ago. In this, as in other respects, the Charter gives expression to the common values and aspirations of humankind.

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3. The United Nations has been tested by conflict, humanitarian crisis and turbulent change, yet it has survived and played an important role in preventing another global conflict and has achieved much for people all over the world. The United Nations has helped to shape the very structure of relations between nations in the modern age. Through the decolonization process and the elimination of apartheid hundreds of millions of human beings have been assured the fundamental right of self determination, and, at this time, which is also the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, it is widely recognized that a new era for democracy, peace and unity has been opened.

4. The speed and extent of change in today's world point to a future of great complexity and challenge and to a sharp increase in the level of expectations of the United Nations.

5. For these reasons and in order to be able to learn from mistakes made in the past and to accept the challenges of the future, it is essential that the United Nations itself be reformed, restructured and modernized. The General Assembly, the universal organ of the Member States of the United Nations, must be revitalized. The role of the Economic and Social Council must be strengthened to enable it to carry out effectively, in the modern age, the tasks it has been assigned with respect to the well-being and standards of life of all people. The Security Council's effectiveness must be increased through an expansion of its membership and further improvements in its working efficiency and the transparency of its work and procedures. These and other essential changes within the United Nations system, including in its secretariats, must now be made if we are to ensure that the United Nations of the future serves well the people in whose name it was established.

6. To meet these challenges, while recognizing that action to secure global peace, security and stability will be futile unless the economic and social needs of people, as well as of States, are addressed, we will:

- Promote methods and means for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and enhance the capabilities of the United Nations in conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, peace-keeping and peace-building

- Strongly support the United Nations, regional and national actions on arms control and disarmament and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, in all its aspects, and other weapons of mass destruction, including biological and chemical weapons and other forms of particularly inhumane weapons, in pursuit of our common commitment to a world free of such weapons

- Act together to defeat the threats to States and peoples posed by terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, and internationally organized crime and the illicit narcotics and illicit arms trades

- Strengthen consultation and cooperation between regional arrangements or agencies and the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

7. A dynamic, vigorous, free and equitable international economic environment is essential to the well-being of humankind and to international peace, security and stability. This need must be addressed, in greater measure, by the United Nations system.

8. The United Nations has played an important role in the promotion of economic and social development and has, over the years, provided life-saving assistance to women, children and men around the world. But the pledge recorded in the Charter that all members of the United Nations shall take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development, has not been adequately implemented.

9. It must be recognized that notwithstanding past efforts, the gap between the developed and developing countries remains unacceptably high. Accelerating globalization and interdependence in the world economy call for policy measures designed to ensure the maximization of the benefits from and the minimization of the negative effects of these trends for all countries, developing, developed and those with economies in transition.

10. Of greatest concern is that one fifth of the world's 5.7 billion people live in abject poverty. Extraordinary measures of international cooperation are needed to address this and related problems.

11. In response to these facts and circumstances, the United Nations has convened a number of specifically focused global conferences in the last five years. As a result, a consensus has emerged on concepts of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, at the core of which is recognition that the human person is the central subject of development and must be at the centre of our actions towards such development.

12. In this context, we are convinced that democracy, individual freedom, and the promotion and protection of all human rights, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and are indispensable foundations of development.

13. In order to foster sustained economic growth and sustainable development and in fulfilment of the commitments we have made on international economic cooperation for development, we are resolved to:

- Promote an open and equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system and framework for trade, investment and transfers of technology and knowledge, as well as enhanced cooperation in the areas of finance and debt for development, as critical conditions for sustained economic growth and development

- Give particular attention to national and international action to enhance the benefits of the process of globalization for all countries and to avoid the marginalization from the world economy of the least developed countries and countries in Africa

- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system for development and strengthen its role in all relevant fields of international economic cooperation

- Invigorate the dialogue and partnership between the developed and developing countries, and with countries with economies in transition, on all development issues based on the imperatives of mutual benefit and interest and genuine interdependence, while recognizing that each country is ultimately responsible for its own development, but reaffirming that the international community must create a supportive international environment for such development

- Promote social development through decisive national and international action aimed at the eradication of poverty as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind, and the promotion of full employment and social integration

- Recognize that the empowerment and the full participation of women is central to all efforts to achieve development

- Reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies in order to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, recognizing that environmental sustainability constitutes an integral part of the development process

- Intensify cooperation on natural disaster reduction and major technological and man-made disasters, disaster relief, post-disaster rehabilitation and humanitarian assistance, in order to enhance the capabilities of countries, particularly developing countries and affected countries with economies in transition, to cope with such situations.

14. We reiterate the Charter's affirmation of the equal rights of and the dignity and worth of the human person, the equal rights of men and women and the principle that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

15. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms. It is also important for all States to ensure the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of their policies towards human rights issues.

16. We will therefore:

- Promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are inherent to all human beings

- Strengthen laws, policies and programmes that would ensure the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all women

- Protect the rights of the child

- Ensure the rights of groups who can be particularly vulnerable to abuse or neglect, including youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly and migrant workers

- Support and protect the rights of indigenous people

- Ensure the protection of the rights of displaced persons and implement international agreements on such protection

- Ensure that the rights of national minorities are protected, and that such groups are able to pursue economic and social development and live in circumstances of full respect for their identity, traditions, forms of social organization and cultural and religious values.

17. The Charter of the United Nations has provided a durable framework for the promotion and development of international law. The continued promotion and development of international law must be pursued with renewed determination, with the view to ensuring that relations between States are based on the principles of justice, universally accepted principles of international law and respect for the rule of law. Such action is particularly required given developments under way in technology, transport, information and resource-related fields and international financial markets, as well as the growing complexity of the work of the United Nations in the humanitarian and refugee assistance fields.

18. We are determined to:

- Promote acceptance of and full respect for all principles of international law

- Build and maintain justice amongst all States, large and small, in full compliance with the principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations

- Settle international disputes by peaceful means

- Encourage the widest possible ratification of international treaties and compliance with the obligations arising from them

- Promote respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law

- Implement all international law on all human rights and fundamental freedoms and encourage universal respect for such law

- Promote the further codification and progressive development of international law, in particular that which would foster economic and social progress consistent with the Charter's commitment to better standards of life in larger freedom, and the right to development.

19. We recognize that our common work, as States, will be the more successful if it is joined and supported by all concerned actors, individuals and groups in civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. We will welcome and facilitate such support and appropriate participation.

20. A healthy and capable United Nations system requires adequate budgets and resources derived from an agreed and fair system of assessment. Such agreement must be implemented by Member States meeting in full and on time their financial obligations to the United Nations system.

21. The secretariats of the United Nations system must improve significantly their efficiency and effectiveness in administering and managing the resources allocated to them by Member States. For their part, Member States will pursue and take responsibility for restructuring that system.

22. Our resolve on this historic occasion is clear. The commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations must be seized as an opportunity to redirect it to greater service to humankind, especially to those who are suffering and are deeply deprived. This is the practical and moral challenge of our time. Our obligation to this end is found in the Charter. The need for it is manifest in the condition of humankind. We will give to the twenty-first century a United Nations equipped and structured to serve effectively the causes of peace, development, equality and justice.